ATTACHMENT II

LOUISIANA TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION FUND - PROGRESS REPORT

I DEPARTMENT/AGENCY

Louisiana State University and A&M College

II PROJECT TITLE

A Prototype High-Performance Computing System for the State of Louisiana

III PROJECT LEADER

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IV DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

LSU requested $989,383 from the Technology Innovation Fund for the acquisition of computing hardware to establish a prototype high-performance computing system in support of numeric and/or data-intensive research, educational and governmental applications within the state of Louisiana. The objective is to demonstrate the viability of and the need for such a state-of-the-art tool in Louisiana. While creating a new and distinct service, the request leverages and builds on LSU's current investment in hardware, software and people and utilizes standard OTM LaNet connectivity anticipating the future expansion to Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) technology.

V PROJECT STATUS

- Brief Summary
  Parallel software configuration was more complex than anticipated. In addition, Y2K issues had to be addressed before the end of the year. However, the project is now making good progress. User enrollment is in full deployment after completion of supporting software installations. We are now moving on to the Pilot Project phase.

- Accomplishments
  - Hardware year 2000 issues were resolved.
  - Upgraded all OS levels to match existing systems with parallel cluster.
  - Parallel software control programs were installed, configured, and brought up to Y2K compliance.
  - The network was reconfigured to improve performance and to take advantage of Internet2 facilities.
  - Many research application programs and program libraries upgraded, installed, and configured.
  - Established storage volumes, file systems for multi-engine work.
  - Established backup and recovery procedures for user and work space, including archival facilities for long-term work.
  - Set up parallel job submission queues and procedures for handling priority sharing of parallel and batch computing resources.

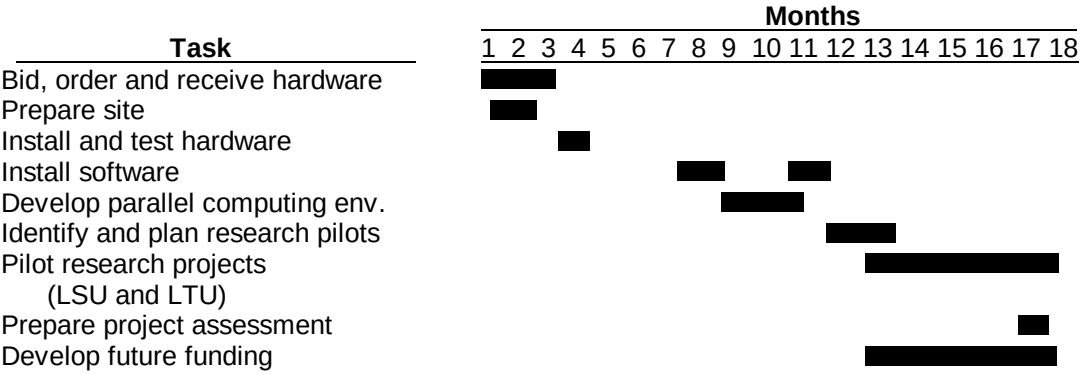
- Deployed specialized account establishment and maintenance procedures.
- Established procedures for automatic email server connections for client accounts.

- Problems Encountered/Action Taken or Planned

  In the late summer and early fall the hardware vendor announced additional Y2K patches that needed to be applied to the hardware and software. This very successful effort took nearly three months to complete due to the needed changes to the systems.

- Major Milestones (Original vs. Current Estimate)

  The original plan called for the completion of the project by February 1, 2000. The plan has turned out to be too optimistic because of the original available personnel and system complexities. We are now entering the pilot research project phase with an estimated completion in about six months. The revised plan follows:



VI COST VS. BUDGET

Category	Budgeted	Actual	Projected Surplus
A. Equipment	$959,599	$896,326	$0
B. Software	$29,784	$ 21,494	$0
C. Telecommunications	$0	$0	$0
Telecommunications costs are not charged to this project.			
D. Prof./Contract Services	$0	$0	$0
Professional Services are not charged to this project.			
E. Other Costs	$0	$0	$0
None.			
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Total Project Cost	$989,383	$917,820	$0

We are currently evaluating additional software acquisitions for this project.

VII ITEMIZED EXPENSES AND FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS INCURRED DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD

Additional Hard Disk (5x18.2 GB)		$ 5,743
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	Total	**$ 5,743**

Louisiana State University, February 29, 2000.